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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	09/881,045																																	
		Filing Date	June 15, 2001																																	
		First Named Inventor	DOWNING, STEPHEN W.																																	
		Group Art Unit	3731																																	
		Examiner Name	NGUYEN, VI X.																																	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	UOMB-001																																	
<b>ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)</b>																																				
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<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>																																				
Signing Attorney/Agent (Reg. No.)	CAROL M. LASALLE, 39,740 BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP																																			
Signature																																				
Date	August 2, 2004																																			

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**AMENDMENT UNDER  
37 C.F.R. §1. 116**

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Attorney Docket No.	UOMB-001
Confirmation No.	5171
First Named Inventor	DOWNING, STEPHEN W.
Application Number	09/881,045
Filing Date	June 15, 2001
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	NGUYEN, VI X.
Title:	"APPARATUSES AND METHODS FOR PERFORMING MINIMALLY INVASIVE DIAGNOSTIC AND SURGICAL PROCEDURES INSIDE OF A BEATING HEART"

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated June 3, 2004 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before September 3, 2004. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.